

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 /027 W

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R 231010Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4525

INFO AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0444

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

3.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ZA, MZ, US

SUBJECT: STAFFDEL BATES/HUNTER CONVERSATION WITH KAUNDA

SUMMARY: STAFFDEL BATES:HUNTER HAD HALF-HOUR CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA EVENING OF APRIL 21. KAUNDA TOLD STAFFDEL IT IS NOW "ONE SECOND PAST MIDNIGHT" AND THE TIME FOR NEGOTIATING HAS PASSED: THE US HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO ACT BUT IT MAY BE TOO LATE: REPEAL OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT WOULD BE SYMBOLICALLY IMPORTANT, BUT NO LONGER OF MUCH EFFECTIVENESS; ZAMBIA IS OPPOSED TO OUTSIDE INTERVENTION IN THE ZIMBABWEAN STRUGGLE, BUT ZAMBIA WILL TRAIN ZIMBABWEAN GUERRILLAS IN ZAMBIA.

1. KENNEDY STAFFERS BATES AND HUNTER SPOTTED KAUNDA AIDE MARK CHONA IN LOCAL HOTEL EVENING APRIL 21. CHONA TOLD THEM HE WOULD ARRANGE MEETING FORHSTAFFDEL WITH PRESIDENT KAUNDA. DURING MEETING, STAFFDE ASKED KAUNDA IF HE FELT NEGOTIATIONS WERE STILL POSSIBLE BETWEEN SMITH AND THE ANC. KAUNDA REPLIED, "IT IS NOW ONE SECOND PAST MIDNIGHT," AND SAID THE TIME OF
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TRYING TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT HAS PASSED. THE ARMED STRUGGLE

HAS BEGUN. ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY HOPE FOR NEGOTIATIONS IN THE FUTURE, KAUNDA STATED, "YOU CAN ASK VORSTER ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SMITH, HOW COULD KAUNDA BE EXPECTED TO.

2. STAFFDEL ASKED KAUNDA WHAT U.S. ROLE IN ZIMBABWEAN STRUGGLE SHOULD BE. KAUNDA REPLIED, "THE U.S. HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO ACT. YOU ARE A GREAT POWER, AND ZAMBIA IS SMALL... YOU WILL KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO. BUT, IT IS VERY LATE, ALMOST TOO LATE TO ACT."

3. KAUNDA SAID THAT REPEAL OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT WOULD BE TOO LATE TO DO MUCH GOOD. BUT, CONTINUING THE BYRD AMENDMENT SHOWS THE MAJORITY OF AMERICANS REALLY SUPPORT THE WHITES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

4. KAUNDA SAID THAT ZAMBIA OPPOSED CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA NOT BECAUSE OF RUSSIAN OR CUBAN COMMUNISM, BUT ON PRINCIPLE OF OPPOSITION TO BIG POWER INTERVENTION IN AFFAIRS OF SMALL POWERS. KAUNDA RECALLED ZAMBIA HAD OPPOSED RUSSIAN ACTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND CONTINUED TO OPPOSE IT "LONG AFTER THE SCREAMING IN THE WEST HAD DIED DOWN." ZAMBIA STILL OPPOSES BIG POWER INTERVENTION, AND STATED, "WE WILL NOT INVITE THE CUBANS INTO ZIMBABWE. THE FIGHT IS FOR ZIMBABWEANS. ZAMBIA WILL ONLY TRAIN THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS."

5. KAUNDA TOLD STAFFDEL, THE "FAILURE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HAS BEEN THAT OF THE GREAT POWERS: ESPECIALLY THE UNITED STATES. THERE IS NO RACISM IN MOZAMBIQUE OR ZAMBIA-WE ARE BEYOND RACE; AND THAT IS THE WAY IT CAN BE THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN AFRICA."

6. STAFFDEL ALSO THOUGHT THAT KAUNDA HAD GROWN WEARY OF LACK OF U.S. ACTION AND UNCERTAIN OF U.S.'S COMMITMENT TO MAJORITY RULE. KAUNDA DID NOT BELIEVE THAT U.S. WOULD CHANGE COURSE DECISIVELY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CODELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MAPUTO00444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760155-0625
From: MAPUTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760430/aaaaaytc.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STAFFDEL BATES/HUNTER CONVERSATION WITH KAUNDA SUMMARY: STAFFDEL BATES:HUNTER HAD HALF-HOUR CONVERSATION
TAGS: PFOR, ZA, MZ, US, RH, (BATES, ROBERT), (HUNTER, ROBERT), (KAUNDA, KENNETH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006